

A new species of *Aedes* (*Finlaya*) from Northern Rhodesia

by

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Aedes (*Finlaya*) *luteostriatus*, sp. nov.

This species is allied to *pulchrithorax*, but in the male the scutum differs most conspicuously in being largely covered with narrow white scales, and in the female the lateral yellow lines on the scutum stretch only about halfway forward. The pattern on the male scutum is similar to that in the *wellmani* group (Robinson, 1948). The scales of the yellow stripes on the scutum are inclined to fade on dried specimens, and in the male this makes them difficult to distinguish from the "background" of white scales.

The holotype male and allotype female with associated larval and pupal pelts deposited in the collection at the South African Institute for Medical Research, Johannesburg, and paratype males 1–3 and females 1–6 and 17–20. Paratype males 4 and 5 and females 7–16 with specimens of larvæ and pupæ have been sent to the British Museum (Natural History).

Type Locality: Ndola, Northern Rhodesia, where specimens were reared from larvæ found in tree-holes, 1947–48.

Female. Head: Ocular scales broad, flat and silvery. Narrow, yellow scales on the nape, and a pair of dark patches on either side of the head. Proboscis, palps and tori black. Palps about half as long as proboscis.

Thorax: (Fig. 1a) In front of the wing a large patch of narrow, white scales. The bare patch in front of the scutellum surrounded by narrow yellow and dark scales, a double median stripe of narrow, yellow scales extending from the bare patch to the front of the scutum. Also a lateral pair of similar lines extending about halfway forward. Rest of scutum covered by narrow, dark scales. Median lobe of scutellum with some narrow, pale scales. Patches of broad, flat, silvery scales on pleuræ, the *ppn* being entirely covered.

Abdomen: Black with basal median and paired lateral patches of silvery scales on tergites 2–7. 1 and 8 with lateral patches only. Sternites 2–7 with basal, pale bands produced to lateral stripes. 8 bare of pale scales.

Legs: Black with purple sheen. Femora: fore and mid with basal one-eighth white in front, basal one-fourth white behind; hind with basal half white back and front. Tibiæ: fore with small, white streak at the base

behind; mid with white basal ring present; hind with basal one-fifth white back and front. Tarsi: fore and mid with narrow, basal, white ring on first segment, basal half white all round on second segment; hind same as fore, but ring on first segment incomplete below.

Wings: dark.

Male. Head: as in female, but more broad, white scales present; palps slightly longer than proboscis.

Thorax: as in female, but scutum heavily sprinkled with narrow, pale scales on area defined by the lateral yellow stripes. Sides of the front half of the scutum dark, as in the female.

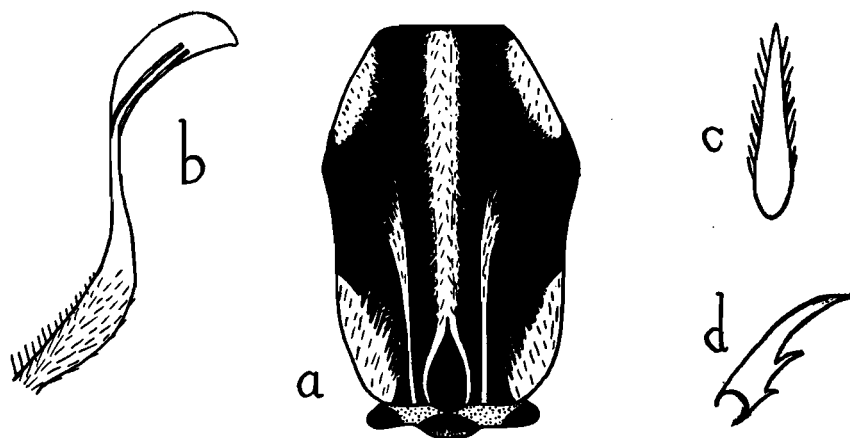


FIG. 1.

Fig. 1. *Aedes (Finlaya) luteostriatus*: a. dorsal view of female scutum; b. claspette of male; c. comb spine of larva; d. pecten spine of larva.

Legs: as in female, but on segment 1 of foretarsi the basal ring is incomplete, and on segment 1 of midtarsi the basal ring is only just complete below.

Wings: as in female.

Terminalia: (Fig. 1b) blade of the claspette more expanded than in *pulchrithorax*, and not sharply marked off from the basal portion of the appendage.

Pupa. The pupa is like that of *pulchrithorax*, but differs as follows: C-II about half as long as segment and with about 40 branches. C-III to C-VIII with 8-2 branches. A-VIII somewhat less than half length of paddle, with 7 branches. Paddle similar to that of *longipalpis* with denticles also internal to the hair.

Larva. The larva is like that of *pulchrithorax*, from which it differs in the shorter seta *B*, the longer siphon, and the tuft which has more numerous branches.

Length: about 6 mm.

Head: antenna tapering, somewhat under half length of the head, sparsely spiculate with a 1-3-branched tuft at about two-thirds. Setæ: *A* with 4-6 branches, *B* single, *C* single or double, *d* small and 6-branched, placed medial to *C*. *A* plumose, *B* and *C* sparsely so. Mentum with 16 teeth on either side of the larger central tooth.

Abdomen: comb with somewhat under 30 spines fringed to the base of the apical tooth, and with broad bases (fig. 1c). Siphonal index 4. Pecten reaching nearly to mid-point of siphon, composed of about 20 spines, each with 3 secondary denticles, of which the first is larger than the rest (fig. 1d). Tuft of 7-8 simple branches about half the diameter of the siphon in length, and placed just distal to the pecten. Anal segment with incomplete saddle which is spiculate, those spicules on the posterior margin being much enlarged. Lateral seta with 4-6 branches much shorter than saddle. Upper caudal seta with 4 branches, lower single and over five times as long as the saddle. Ventral tuft with five pairs of tufts on the barred area, two small unpaired tufts. Gills lanceolate, dorsal pair somewhat longer than saddle.

In the key for *Finlaya* adults in Edwards (1941) a third alternative may be added to section 4, thus:—

Scutum with three lines of pale scales, the lateral pair incomplete anteriorly (female), or if scutum largely covered with pale scales, a white ring present at the base of the hind tibia (male) *luteostriatus*

In the key for *Aedes* larvæ in Hopkins (1936) a third alternative may be added to section 25, thus:—

Dorsal gills longer than saddle, none of the pecten spines more widely spaced than the others *luteostriatus*

Acknowledgment.

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References.

- Edwards, F. W. (1941): Mosquitoes of the Ethiopian Region, III.
 Hopkins, G. H. E. (1936): Mosquitoes of the Ethiopian Region, I.
 Robinson, G. G. (1948): Mosquitoes caught in Northern Rhodesia at Balovale and Livingstone. J. ent. Soc. S. Afr., XI, 63.